



## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-006

BY SENATOR(S) Sonnenberg, Aguilar, Baumgardner, Carroll, Cooke, Crowder, Donovan, Garcia, Grantham, Guzman, Heath, Hill, Hodge, Holbert, Jahn, Johnston, Jones, Kefalas, Kerr, Lambert, Lundberg, Marble, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield, Neville T., Newell, Roberts, Scheffel, Scott, Steadman, Tate, Todd, Ulibarri, Woods, Cadman; also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Fields and Lawrence, Arndt, Becker J., Becker K., Brown, Buck, Buckner, Carver, Conti, Coram, Court, Danielson, DelGrosso, Dore, Duran, Esgar, Everett, Foote, Garnett, Ginal, Hamner, Humphrey, Joshi, Kagan, Klingenschmitt, Kraft-Tharp, Landgraf, Lebsack, Lee, Leonard, Lontine, Lundeen, McCann, Melton, Mitsch Bush, Moreno, Navarro, Neville P., Nordberg, Pabon, Pettersen, Primavera, Priola, Rankin, Ransom, Rosenthal, Roupe, Ryden, Saine, Salazar, Sias, Singer, Thurlow, Tyler, Van Winkle, Vigil, Willett, Williams, Wilson, Windholz, Winter, Wist, Young, Hullinghorst.

CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF FEBRUARY 4 AS "MISSING PERSONS DAY" IN COLORADO.

WHEREAS, Each year, hundreds of thousands of families are faced with what President Ronald Reagan called "the stark terror of a unique tragedy"--a missing family member; and

WHEREAS, Every 40 seconds, someone goes missing in America; approximately 2,300 Americans are reported missing every day, and there are as many as 90,000 active missing persons cases in the United States at any given time; and

WHEREAS, In 2014, the FBI's National Crime Information Center logged 466,949 reports of missing children; by December 31, 2014, the FBI reported 89,924 active missing persons in the United States, with more than half being juveniles under the age of 21; and

WHEREAS, Children and adults go missing from their families for a number of devastating reasons: they run away or wander and become lost; they disappear under circumstances indicating that their disappearance may not have been voluntary; or they go missing under suspicious circumstances, indicating that they may be in physical danger or the victims of foul play; and

WHEREAS, In 2002, Colorado Governor Bill Owens signed House Bill 02-1083, establishing the AMBER (America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response) Alert program in Colorado; named after nine-year-old Amber Hagerman, who was abducted and killed in Texas in 1996, the program ensures that local law enforcement agencies can use the Emergency Alert System in Colorado to broadcast information to alert citizens of missing children; and

WHEREAS, Since 1996, AMBER Alerts have successfully recovered 772 children nationally; and

WHEREAS, For all the important work done to recover missing children, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children lists 58 missing Coloradan children from every area of the state; all disappeared from their families when they were children and some have been missing for decades; and

WHEREAS, While too many families grieve and hope for their missing children, others are in search of their missing family members of all ages; and

WHEREAS, According to the Alzheimer's Association, 6 in 10 people with Alzheimer's or dementia will wander and may become lost, a frequent and frightening challenge for their caregivers and families; and

WHEREAS, In 2007, Colorado Governor Bill Ritter signed House Bill 07-1005 into law, which expanded an alert program for senior citizens to include people with developmental disabilities to connect caretakers with law enforcement officials, who can use the reach of the radio and television stations and other media to alert the community; and

WHEREAS, The awareness of citizens, media, and law enforcement,

as well as their support, their efforts, and their search for missing persons, must continue; and

WHEREAS, The public plays a critical role in the success of the AMBER and Silver Alert programs; they become the eyes and the ears of law enforcement and can be on the lookout for the missing person; and

WHEREAS, The common misconception that a person must be absent for at least 24 hours before being legally classified as missing is dangerous; when there is evidence of violence or of an unusual absence, it is critical that an investigation begin promptly; and

WHEREAS, New advances in technology must be utilized and made available to locate the missing; and

WHEREAS, The state of Colorado is committed to the safety and well-being of its citizens, both children and adults; and

WHEREAS, The designation of Missing Persons Day in Colorado will firmly embed the importance of missing persons and their families and friends in our state calendar and will raise a level of awareness with other cities and states that have already designated a Missing Persons Day; and

WHEREAS, The designation of Missing Persons Day in Colorado offers a platform to plan events that will connect families with resources to help identify and find their long-term missing loved ones; and

WHEREAS, The designation of Missing Persons Day in Colorado will ensure that the families and friends of the missing know that they are not alone in this tragedy of uncertainties and lack of closure, which leads to extreme suffering and long-lasting effects on the health, finances, and relationships of those left behind; and

WHEREAS, Every missing person is someone's son or daughter, father or mother, brother or sister, partner or friend, and every missing person deserves to be searched for and found; now, therefore,

*Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventieth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

(1) That we, the members of the General Assembly, recognize the epidemic of the missing in America as "The Silent Mass Disaster" and empathize with the ongoing suffering of the families and friends of those who are missing;

(2) That we recognize the importance of raising awareness of the numbers of people who go missing in Colorado each year;

(3) That we applaud the committed efforts of families, law enforcement agencies, and concerned citizens who work to locate missing persons;

(4) That we encourage the continued support of worthy initiatives and private and public programs to increase efforts to locate missing persons;

(5) That we hereby designate February 4 of each year as Missing Persons Day and support the goals and ideals of the day; and

(6) That we acknowledge the names, and the families, of the Coloradans who are currently missing: Christopher Enoch Abeyta, Luis Acosta, John Aden, Carmen Aguilera, Jesus Alavarez, Katherine Allen, Victoria Alleyne, Angie Almanza, Bryan Dale Ambrose, Ambreen Amjad, Uvaldo Moises Anaya, Keith Robert Anderson, Isabella Balajonda Annibal, Tiannah Annibal, Carlo Isai Andrade, Cynthia Atterbury, Bonny L. Baker, Brandon Masaki Baker, Victoria Bakhtiari, Linda J. Barker, Gayla Jean Barnes, Katherine Sue Barnum, Mario Barraza-Murillo, Colleen Kay Barrett, James Bartholomew, Tracy Jay Bastion, Joseph Batie, Richard Glen Beebe, Angelaquic Benson, Pamela Sue Bera, David Gerard Berger, Gloria Berreth, Casey Scott Berry, Abigail Jo Blagg, Marie Ann Blee, Robert Matthew Bockmann, Mark Bonner, Lesley Allan Border, Robert James Bowling, Arthur Brandes, William Brennan, Lester Joseph Bright, Emily Bruner, Austin Eugene Bryant, Edward Dylan Bryant, Colleen Kay Burgess, Daniel Burrow, Sherry Dawn Bynum, Frederick Lee Cain, Rocky Carpenter, Thad D. Carper, Christopher Kit Carson, Gregory John Carter, Timothy Darrell Case, Katelyn Caudill, Autumn Starr Cerenil-Lee, Ramey Chabarria, Kenneth Anthony Chacon, Dena Chandelario Snyder, Lorenzo D. Chivers, Earl T. Clark, Randall S. Clark, Ray Burssie Collins, Christopher Michael Collyer, Martin Ernest Conley, Darren Michael Connolly, Thomas R. Cook, Randi Coon, Timothy L. Copley, Patricia Ann Cordova,

Shaun Wayne Cordova, Charlene M. Cramer, Lynnea Rose Cross, Angie Cruz Garces, Valentin Cruz, Julie L. Cunningham, Johnathan Dalton, Maurice Gordon Dametz, James Earl Dean, Samantha Delano, Julia R. Dearent, Fabian Del Rosario, Aiffatoo Diroume, Nicholas Joseph Dolce, Nonnie Ann Dotson, Jennifer Anne Douglas, Rex Lee Douglas, Dean Drew, Stephanie Ann Drnovsek, Charles Ellsworth Duke, Keith Ebrecht, Adam N. Elkhadiri, Roger John Ellison, Bekime Elshani, Maria I. Emeterio, Beverly Lynn England, April Brenda Escobedo, Eric Espinoza, Mary Helen Esquibel, Julia Ferdig-Candow, Elaine J. Fauver, J.D. Ferguson, William P. Ferguson, John Patrick Fischer, Eugene Francis Fish, Jocelyn S. Fish, Stephanie Kay Fladgard, Blanca Chanel Flores, Daniel John Forrentino, Jeffrey Lee Fossum, Matthew Coleman Foxley, Mary Angela Gallegos, Evaristo Galvan, Ailena Garcia, Shaida Ghaemi, Phillip Gomez, Patricia Gonzalez, Robert F. Gonzales, Jack Nels Gordon, Lucas Whyte Gordon, Evan Eugene Graham, Alector Gray, Benjamin Franklin Gray, Kimberly Diane Greene-Medina, Sean Ryan Gribble, John Gruber, Patricia Ann Gutierrez, Benito Guzman, Emanuel Guzman, Debra Ann Hageman, Norma Jean Halford, Prestlie Dean Hall, Joseph Lawrence Halpern, Christopher James Harvey, Jon Truscott Haynes, Mitchell Todd Hein, Ronda Elizabeth Henrichsen, Deborah Ann Heriford, Carmen Rose Hetrick, Helen Holdman, Daphne Ronette Hope, Theresa Lynn Hubbard, Joyce Hunter, Michael B. Hunter, Peter J. Hurst, Deborah K. Hyatt, Carl Leroy Jackson, Ashley Lee James, Brian James, Brian Russell Jaramillo, Dorothy L. Jenkins, Sipriano J. Jiminez, Jasmine Johnson, Ashton Richard Jones, Svetlana Jones, Benjamin Clements Kalina, Joseph L Keller, Rebecca Ann Kellison, James Kilby, Sandra Lee Killian, Walter Iwao Kimoto, Richard James Kirk, Tereasa Sue Knuth, Claudia Ko, Tiffany Ko, Shelly Kowalski, David Kramer, Bethany Kruc, Ronald Kuetemeier, Summer Larned-Duran, Lori Lee Layman, Jamie Legoretta, Edith Bernice Lehnerz, John Francis Lenihan, Andy Joe Lepley, Jerri Dale Lesser, Patricia Ann Lilly, Maria Ling, Maria Lira, Dennis Lopez, Perla Lopez, Laurie Renee Lucas, Lorne Mabbutt, Ernest Jonathan Macaulay, Charles Steven Madrid, Alyssa Mahan, Brandi Jo Malonson, Jennifer Lynn Marcum, James Martin, Daniel Martinez, Steven Martinez, Jonelle Matthews, Bruce Scott McAllister, Penny Lynn McClees, Michael Jerry McClure, Beverly Jean McCool, Oscar Joseph McNear, Crystal Medina, Douglas Edward Meer, Wendy Arely Mendez, Diana Aracely Mendoza, Yvonne Marie Mestas, Michael E. Meter, Richard Stanley Meyer, Thomas Arthur Michaud, Evelyn D. Middleton, Elizabeth A. Miller, Rachelle Miller, Daniel Miranda, Rudolf Moder,

Ruth Morales, Richard Kenneth Morgan, Shanti Mountain Sage Motry, Anthony Steven Michael Moya, Irma Rosario Muneton-Cueto, Binti Muse, Robert Myer, Pamela L. Neal, Nanci Terese Nelson, Kara Nancy Nichols, Edward D. Nickelson, Mary Niemi, John Northrup, Geraldine Ann Obregon-Gingles, Lee Steven Ochs, Maria Rosario Olea, Liliana Olevera, Anthony M. Olivari, Denise Lynn Oliverson, Jessica Eileen Ortiz, Sandra Kay Patterson, Aarshiya Patil, Jiaa Patil, Ifeoma Pecorella, Theodore Petersen, Christopher W. Petty, Tom Phifer, Robert Thomas Pillsen-Rahier, Gary Edward Pino, Lea Porter, Diana Judith Portillo, Brian Pytlinski, Jorge Quinones, Kimberly Quinones-Rivera, Alejandro Quinones-Zapaico, Joclyn Evette Quintana, Beatriz Ramirez, Juana Ramirez, Sergio Ernesto Ramirez, Rosario Ramirez-Lujan, Antonio Ramirez-Orozco, Ambretta Luanna Rawhouser, Gerald Hugh Ray, Dylan Nicholas Redwine, Keith R. Reinhard, Kim Margaret Remmel, Ivan Renteria, Peggy Ann Reynolds, Ian Ashley Richardson, Alex Rivera, Amparo Rivera, Maria Guadalupe Rivera, Richard Dean Roberts, Shawn Roberts, Brenda Carol Rodriguez, Justus Alcorta Rodriguez, Steven Rogers, Georgia Lee Rohner, Raniro Romo, Martha Rye Rooks, Alejandro Rosales, Marco Rosales-Deloisa, Gary Jerome Rose, James Brian Rowe, Michael Damian Rust, Sandy Ruiz Salazar, Angela Sanchez, Caressa Sanchez, Mario Fernando Sanchez, Victoria Lenore Sanchez, Angelica Esperanza Sandoval, Kristina Marie Sandoval, Kelsie J. Schelling, Teresa Schilt, Teresa Schmidt, Samuel David Schrup, Robert Dwaine Scott, Jose I. Segura, Jessica Gale Shoemake, Nancy L. Shoupp Roberto Silva-Perez, Nicole E. Silvers, John M. Simons, Jewels Sirio, Ronnie D. Sisneros, Paul C. Skiba, Sarah Arielle Skiba, Gerald Kenneth Sollenbarger, Nathanael Sonobe, Juan Pablo Mendez Soto, Rocio C. Sperry, David Arthur Stack, Jordan Brianne Stattig, Julie Shawn Stefanek, Angela Stevens, Daryl A. Stockert, Joseph Stocks, Leval D. Storey, Raymond Stubblefield, Jeremy Jason Sullivan, Alexander J. Talamantes-Bourg, Vera Terrazas-Parra, Lori Ann Thiel, Ctormy B. Taylor, Rodney L. Thomas, Aarone Thompson, Joel Matthew Thompson, Mallory Tillman, Nicholle Torrez, Paul Vernon Trowbridge, Sheri Lynn Trujillo, Shane Kelly Turner, Ligia Miranda Uribe-Ramos, Michelle Ileana Uribe-Ramos, Raelyn Trujillo, Carla F. Valdez, Michelle Rae Vanek, Cecilia L. Vargas-Merlos, Oscar Vasquez-Garcia, Jeremiah Vaughn, Juan Veloz-Reyes, John Michael Vengrin, Nicole Anna Vera-Rico, Amadeo Vigil, Christopher William Vigil, Robert Gilbert Vigil, Roger A. Vigil, Graycen Wagner, Michael Robert Walczak, Donald Emmitt Wall, Patricia M. Wallace, Darlene Ann Wallace, Robbie

Alan Wardwell, Larry Watts, Seth Daniel Weaver, Ryan Wieter, Kathy Wilkerson, Dale Duane Williams, Barbara Wilson, Jinx Wilson, Wendy Renee Wisner, Timothy Dale Witt, Sturgis Lee Wittenburg, Ronald Lee Wood, William J. Worley, Eric M. Xooc Puc, Brian J. Yeagley, Shelda Yenter, D.Z. You Ying Pu, Harold Young, Alejandra Zavala, and Leland Zook.

*Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to Voices of Victims; Families of Homicide Victims and Missing Persons, Inc. (FOHVAMP); Colorado Victims for Justice; the Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance (COVA); and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation.



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